

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday September 29th, 2024

News from the IRTS

The latest IRTS committee meeting took place on Thursday, September 19th. The meeting started at 8 p.m., concluded shortly after 10 p.m., and was held on the Zoom platform. The meeting which was very well attended was hosted by IRTS President, Enda EI2II.

During the duration of the meeting, many items were discussed with the following being of major importance to the general membership. The IRTS examination board has appointed a new chairman, John Ronan EI7IG. John takes over the chairman role from Declan Horan EI9FVB. The IRTS would like to thank Declan for the massive amount of time and effort he put into the role as chairman especially as we navigated out of Covid-19 restrictions. The IRTS also wish to acknowledge the appointment of Des Chambers, EI5GT, Deputy Head of NUIG's IT department to the examination board. Des has over 30 years of 3rd level teaching in communications and networks with a background in electronics and will be a great addition to the team. The IRTS wish both John and Des the very best of luck in their new roles.

As noted earlier this year, the IRTS club affiliation process is being overhauled to improve our systems. Going forward, we will be requiring all clubs applying for, or renewing affiliation to complete a form giving the society up to date contact details for each club. This is to enable us to work closer with clubs on promoting the hobby and managing our insurance requirements more efficiently. We are requesting club secretaries to submit current details before the end of October, so we have the information at hand for our 2025 insurance renewal. As many clubs hold AGMs also at the end of the year or early in 2025, we would ask to be notified of any changes. Application/renewal forms can be found on the download section of the IRTS website.

The next IRTS committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 13th at 8:00 p.m. on the Zoom platform. All IRTS affiliated clubs are reminded that under Rule 16.1, the members in each affiliated club or, society may elect a representative and an alternate annually to attend IRTS committee meetings. Clubs wishing to send a representative should notify the IRTS Secretary, Owen EI4GGB at [irts_secretary /at/ irts.ie](mailto:irts_secretary@irts.ie) in advance to ensure notification and links are provided.

VHF/Microwave Co-Manager Updates

The newly appointed IRTS VHF/Microwave co-managers Keith EI5IN and Denis EI4KH have contacted clubs seeking input and ideas regarding VHF and above in EI. Interest is

also being sought regarding regular activity evenings on the bands above 30 MHz. Updated information regarding worked locator squares for publication on the IRTS website would also be appreciated from operators.

A 2m FM simplex net is taking place each Thursday night from 8 p.m. in the southern Ireland region on 145.200 MHz. All are welcome to call in even if you just have time to exchange a report.

On Wednesday night, October 2nd, digital mode fans can take part in a European activity evening which uses both FT8 and FT4 rotating through the 2m, 70cm, and 23cm bands each week. The 2m band is the focus for Wednesday night's activity from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. local time. Further details available at www.ft8activity.eu

You can contact the VHF/microwave team via email at [vhf_manager /at/ irts.ie](mailto:vhf_manager@irts.ie).

IRTS Contest Manager Update

SSB Field Day results are available on the IRTS website. Contest manager Mark EI6JK reports a record level of participation, with seven EI Field Day stations in action, involving more than 30 operators. Overall, very few QSOs on 10m were noted and it was not much better on 15m. Lots of activity on 20m and 40m was recorded. Well done to all that took part.

The closing date for IRTS VHF/UHF Counties contest log submissions is today Sunday the 29th of September. 14 logs for the 2m contest and 11 logs for the 70cms contest have been submitted so far.

The next and last IRTS contest of the year is the 80m Evening Counties contest on Tuesday the 8th of October 2024. These fun events are excellent opportunities for self-training and learning more about propagation as well as your station performance. Good luck to all taking part.

Contest manager Mark EI6JK is very willing to help anyone with logging programs for contests anytime. You can contact him via email at [contestmanager /at/ irts.ie](mailto:contestmanager@irts.ie).

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

There will not be any physical September or October meeting of the EI2WRC club. The next physical meeting will take place at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 25th at the SETU West Campus, Carriganore, Waterford at 8:00 p.m. sharp. Normal Zoom meetings take place weekly on a Monday evening at 8 p.m. For anyone that would like to join in on a Zoom meeting, please get in contact with an EI2WRC committee member.

For more information about EI2WRC, their activities, and for contact details please see www.searg.ie

Avondhu Radio Club in the SSB Field Day

Avondhu Radio Club were active for the SSB Field Day using the callsign EI1E/P. SWL Declan helped assemble and test an 80m to 10m fan dipole. The club reported that this antenna worked a treat with 400W and no antenna tuner. They logged stations as far away from Japan to the USA. Power was provided by a Honda 20i generator. Radio equipment included an Elecraft K3S, P3, and a KPA-500 using Wintest as their logger. The club's next event is the CQWW SSB contest.

Shannon Basin Radio Club SSB DX Nets

Shannon Basin Radio Club's 80m SSB DX net recommenced on Thursday night last with a long list of call-ins. It continues again at 9 p.m. local time on Thursday October 3rd on 3.770 MHz +/- QRM. All are very welcome to join in including SWL reports. Their topband DX net will restart near the end of October and further information will be provided closer to the date.

DX Féile 2024

DX Féile which is organised and run by the EIDX Group takes place next Saturday October 5th in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis. For further information, please contact David Deane via email to ei9fbb /at/ gmail.com or telephone 087 7444777.

Enigma Reloaded Event

From September 27th to October 5th, Italian and other amateur radio stations around the world will be taking part in an Enigma award event. The main goal of the Enigma event is to promote as much radio amateur activity as possible all over the world, celebrating the history of the Enigma cipher machine and its crucial role in the outcome of World War II, and spreading the knowledge of those key people who contributed to its decryption. On October 5th, the final day, activator stations will exchange predefined CW messages previously encrypted by a real or emulated Enigma machine. Further information is available at www.enigma-reloaded.it

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam /at/ irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday.

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